## WHAT IS CLAIMED:

l	1.	A check processing system, comprising:
,		an input receptacle for receiving checks, each check having a wide and a narrow
<u>.</u>		an input receptable for receiving cheeks, each cheek having a wide and a harrow
3	dimension and	l including field data imprinted on the check;
1		at least one output receptacle;
5		a check imager; and
5		a transport mechanism coupled to the input receptacle for receiving the checks
7	from the inpu	t receptacle and transporting the checks, with their narrow dimension parallel to a
8	direction of tra	ansport, past the check imager to the at least one output receptacle;
9		wherein the check imager captures an image of each passing check, and wherein
0	the check ima	ger processes the captured image to recognize the imprinted field data.
1		2. The system of claim 1 wherein the imprinted field data comprises MICR
2	data.	
1	3.	The system of claim 1 wherein the imprinted field data comprises numeric check
2	amount data.	
1	4.	The system of claim 1 wherein the imprinted field data comprises courtesy field
2	data.	
	5	The system of claim 1 further including a memory for storing the sheek images

- 1 6. The system of claim 1 further including means for electronically tagging recognized field data to the check images.
- 7. The system of claim 1 wherein the imprinted field data comprises bank endorsement data.
- 1 8. The system of claim 1 further including an interface for outputting the check 2 images over a communications channel.
- 1 9. The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one output receptacle is a single bin.
- 1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one output receptacle is two bins.
- 1 11. The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one output receptacle is a plurality of 2 bins.

1	12.	A check processing method, comprising:
2		receiving checks in an input receptacle, each check having a wide and a narrow
3	dimension and	d including field data imprinted on the check;
4		transporting the checks, with their narrow dimension parallel to a direction of
5	transport, fron	n the input receptacle to at least one output receptacle;
6		imaging the transported checks; and
7		processing check images to recognize the imprinted field data.
1	13.	The method of claim 12 wherein the imprinted field data comprises MICR data.
1	14.	The method of claim 12 wherein the imprinted field data comprises numeric
2	check amount	data.
1	15.	The method of claim 12 wherein the imprinted field data comprises courtesy field
2	data.	
1	16.	The method of claim 12 further including storing the check images.
1	17.	The method of claim 12 further including electronically tagging recognized field
2	data to the che	eck images.
1	18.	The method of claim 12 wherein the imprinted field data comprises bank

endorsement data.

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bins.

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communications channel.

20. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one output receptacle is a single bin.

1 21. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one output receptacle is two bins.

22. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one output receptacle is a plurality of

The method of claim 12 further including outputting the check images over a

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